

From: Holder, Stanley [Holder.Stanley@epa.gov]
Sent: 10/1/2015 7:25:58 PM
To: ldwrightjr@gmail.com; Julia Sage [jsage@poncatribes-ne.org]; rteboe@poncatribes-ne.org
CC: Shea, Valois [Shea.Valois@epa.gov]; Bustos, Patrick [Bustos.Patrick@epa.gov]
Subject: Dewey-Burdock Informational Session
Attachments: R8EPA_Dewey-BurdockFig1.pdf; R8EPA_Dewey-BurdockFig2.pdf; R8EPA_Dewey-BurdockFig3.pdf; R8EPA_Dewey-BurdockFig4.pdf

Good afternoon,

I am contacting you on behalf of the EPA Region 8 in Denver, Colorado. EPA Region 8 would like to invite Tribal leaders, the Cultural Director, the Environmental Manager, and other interested government representatives of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska to an informal consultation meeting about the proposed Dewey-Burdock uranium in-situ recovery (ISR) site in the southern Black Hills near Edgemont, South Dakota. The meeting would be held in the EPA Region 7 office building located at 11201 Renner Blvd, Lenexa, Kansas.

Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss cultural interests the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska has at the Dewey-Burdock Site and the Black Hills in general, as well as the EPA-regulated activities at the site, the EPA tribal consultation process and any other topics of interest to the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska. EPA Region 8 would like to hold the meeting during the week of October 12 or the week of October 26, 2015 to be scheduled at your convenience any time during those two weeks. The EPA Region 8 would also like to meet with the Santee Sioux Tribe during the same week. Please indicate if you would like to meet together with the Santee Sioux Tribal leaders or in a separate meeting.

Please note that this meeting is not intended to be formal government-to-government consultation; it is an informal information exchange session intended to lead to formal consultation if the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska prefers to continue to participate in this discussion and dialogue.

Background Information on the Dewey-Burdock Uranium ISR Site

The Dewey-Burdock site is located north of Edgemont, South Dakota, in Fall River and Custer Counties. The EPA Region 8 UIC Program has received Class III and Class V injection well permit applications for this site from Powertech (USA) Inc. The Class III injection wells are related to uranium recovery; the Class V injection wells are deep wells for the disposal of process wastewater. The Class III permit application requests authorization for 14 injection well fields to inject fluids for the in-situ recovery of uranium. The Class V area permit application requests authorization for the injection of ISR process waste fluids (treated to meet radioactive and hazardous waste standards) into four deep wells: two injecting into the Minnelusa Formation and two injecting into the Deadwood Formation. The Class V area permit application requests authorization for up to eight deep injection wells in case the four currently proposed wells do not have the capacity to dispose of the full anticipated volume of all ISR process waste fluids.

The total proposed project area consists of approximately 10,580 acres (4,282 ha) east and west of the Dewey Road (County Road 6463), including portions of Sections 1-5, 10-12, 14 and 15 in Township 7 South, Range 1 East and Sections 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, and 30-35 in Township 6 South, Range 1 East, Black Hills Meridian. The surface area that will actually be impacted by the uranium ore processing plants, the 14 proposed uranium ISR well fields, the 4 proposed deep injection wells, impoundments, roads and other surface-disturbing facilities is less than the 10,580-acre project area. The enclosed Figure 1 is a map showing the project site location. Figure 2 is a map showing the locations of the proposed wellfields containing Class III injection wells and the site project boundary. Figure 3 shows the locations for the four proposed deep Class V injection wells. Figure 4 shows a stratigraphic cross section of geologic formations at the Dewey-Burdock site and the proposed injection zones for both the Class III and Class V injection wells. The Powertech Dewey-Burdock Project Class III

and Class V area permit applications are available for public review on the EPA Region 8 UIC Program website at <http://www2.epa.gov/region8/underground-injection-control>.

We hope that representatives of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska will be interested in meeting with the EPA Region 8 in the Region 7 office building during the month of October. After that meeting, the EPA Region 8 UIC Program will mail invitation letters for formal consultation with the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska. Please reply back to me if you are interested in scheduling a meeting with the EPA Region 8 and indicate the days during the weeks of October 12 or 26 that would be convenient for you to attend a meeting here in the Region 7 office. Please contact Valois Shea of the EPA Region 8 UIC Program if you or your staff has questions. Ms. Shea's contact information is (800) 227-8917, extension 312-6276 or (303) 312-6276; or email shea.valois@epa.gov.

Respectfully,

Stanley R. Holder Jr.
Office of Tribal Affairs
U.S. EPA Region 7
Ph 913-551-7374